

Hope Hill Church Prayers for Lent

Week 4: Cultivating God's Truth

Sunday

Call to Prayer

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:17-24 (NLT)

Be good to your servant,
that I may live and obey your word.
Open my eyes to see
the wonderful truths in your instructions.
I am only a foreigner in the land.
Don't hide your commands from me!
I am always overwhelmed
with a desire for your regulations.
You rebuke the arrogant;
those who wander from your commands are cursed.
Don't let them scorn and insult me,
for I have obeyed your laws.
Even princes sit and speak against me,
but I will meditate on your decrees.
Your laws please me;
they give me wise advice.

2 Corinthians 13:7-8 (NLT)

We pray to God that you will not do what is wrong by refusing our correction. I hope we won't need to demonstrate our authority when we arrive. Do the right thing before we come—even if that makes it look like we have failed to demonstrate our authority. For we cannot oppose the truth, but must always stand for the truth.

Time of Reflection

We are all on a journey to learn more about God's truth and cultivate his truth in our hearts. Pray that God will lead you on a journey to know Him and make Him known more today.

Think about a time you have had to stand up for God's truth. Was it hard? Did you stumble? Ask God for strength, that you may stand up for the truth of Christ.

Missional Moment

You've probably had a lot that's gone on over the past week. Stop for a moment. Think back to where you've seen God in your life over this last week. Rejoice in how God has met you. Now, ask God to prepare you to be accessible to people this coming week.

Community Prayer

Pray for local town and county law enforcement officers who stand for what is right, enforce the law, and work hard to protect our communities. Pray for those who serve in our armed forces as well, that you would grant them peace.

Monday

Call to Prayer

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Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:41-48 (NLT)

LORD, give me your unfailing love,

the salvation that you promised me.

Then I can answer those who taunt me,

for I trust in your word.

Do not snatch your word of truth from me,

for your regulations are my only hope.

I will keep on obeying your instructions

forever and ever.

I will walk in freedom,

for I have devoted myself to your commandments.

I will speak to kings about your laws,

and I will not be ashamed.

How I delight in your commands!

How I love them!

I honor and love your commands.

I meditate on your decrees.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you.

Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Time of Reflection

Take a few moments to praise God for the truth found in Christ and the Scriptures.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would kindle a love for God's truth in your heart.

Pray that God would transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.

Missional Moment

If you see someone who serves people in some way, thank them for the work they do. An example would be someone in emergency medical services, a doctor, police officer, teacher, etc. Let them know they're appreciated.

Community Prayer

Pray for all those who serve in the health care industry and in emergency medical services. Pray for God's wisdom and strength as they work to save lives, help heal sicknesses and disease, and improve quality of life.

Tuesday

Call to Prayer

God's desire is for all of humanity to have an intimate relationship with Him. We are able to know God through his Son, Jesus Christ. We engage in a relationship with God through studying the Scriptures and allowing the Holy Spirit to reveal God's love, truth and compassion, which are found in Christ Jesus.

Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:65-72 (NLT)

You have done many good things for me, LORD,
just as you promised.

I believe in your commands;
now teach me good judgment and knowledge.

I used to wander off until you disciplined me;
but now I closely follow your word.

You are good and do only good;
teach me your decrees.

Arrogant people smear me with lies,
but in truth I obey your commandments with all my heart.

Their hearts are dull and stupid,
but I delight in your instructions.

My suffering was good for me,
for it taught me to pay attention to your decrees.

Your instructions are more valuable to me
than millions in gold and silver.

2 Timothy 2:15-16 (NLT)

Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth. Avoid worthless, foolish talk that only leads to more godless behavior.

Time of Reflection

Reflect on a time when you had to explain God's truth to someone else. Ask that God would grant you the ability to explain God's truth to all who ask.

Pray that you will be good and do good by learning more about God's truth from his Word and the direction of the Holy Spirit.

Thank God that his truth spurs us on to good works. Pray that God would use you today to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly before him.

Missional Moment

Go to *Christianity Today* or another news source and read about how God is moving in another part of the world.

Community Prayer

Pray for all the business leaders and entrepreneurs providing services to our community. Pray for wisdom and integrity as they serve as role models.

Wednesday

Call to Prayer

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Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:81-88 (NLT)

I am worn out waiting for your rescue,
but I have put my hope in your word.

My eyes are straining to see your promises come true.

When will you comfort me?

I am shriveled like a wineskin in the smoke,
but I have not forgotten to obey your decrees.

How long must I wait?

When will you punish those who persecute me?

These arrogant people who hate your instructions
have dug deep pits to trap me.

All your commands are trustworthy.

Protect me from those who hunt me down without cause.

They almost finished me off,

but I refused to abandon your commandments.

In your unfailing love, spare my life;

then I can continue to obey your laws.

John 3:19-21 (NLT)

And the judgment is based on this fact: God's light came into the world, but people loved the darkness more than the light, for their actions were evil. All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it for fear their sins will be exposed. But those who do what is right come to the light so others can see that they are doing what God wants.

Time of Reflection

Think about some of the things that you are absolutely sure of in life. Is God's truth something you are sure of?

Pray that God would give you eternal life through the knowledge of his truth.

Ask the Holy Spirit to guide your steps today, so that you may do what is right and follow the light of Christ.

Missional Moment

Do you know someone who struggles with insecurity or is in a place of anxiety or uncertainty? Reach out to them today.

Community Prayer

Pray for all those who are unemployed and struggling financially in the region. Pray that God provides for their families, opens the right doors for new career opportunities, and shows us ways to help them.

Thursday

Call to Prayer

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Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:89-96 (NLT)

Your eternal word, O LORD,
stands firm in heaven.

Your faithfulness extends to every generation,
as enduring as the earth you created.

Your regulations remain true to this day,
for everything serves your plans.

If your instructions hadn't sustained me with joy,
I would have died in my misery.

I will never forget your commandments,
for by them you give me life.

I am yours; rescue me!

For I have worked hard at obeying your commandments.

Though the wicked hide along the way to kill me,

I will quietly keep my mind on your laws.

Even perfection has its limits,

but your commands have no limit.

1 John 1:5-10 (NLT)

This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual darkness; we are not practicing the truth. But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth. But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness. If we claim we have not sinned, we are calling God a liar and showing that his word has no place in our hearts.

Time of Reflection

Take a few moments to think about the men and women who raised you up in your faith. Thank God that his faithfulness endures to all generations.

Reflect on some of your words and actions over the past few days. Confess your sins to God, who through the death and resurrection of Christ forgives us of our sins and cleanses us of all wickedness.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would help you to practice God's truth in your words and actions this day.

Missional Moment

Find someone who is elderly and allow him or her to tell you his or her story. Be quick to listen and slow to speak.

Community Prayer

Pray for the elderly people in our community. Pray that God would remind them that Christ loves them dearly.

Pray that we take opportunities to meet their needs for community, love, and value. Pray that God would give us an open heart to learn from their wisdom, experience, and guidance.

Friday

Call to Prayer

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Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:137-144 (NLT)

O LORD, you are righteous,
and your regulations are fair.
Your laws are perfect
and completely trustworthy.
I am overwhelmed with indignation,
for my enemies have disregarded your words.
Your promises have been thoroughly tested;
that is why I love them so much.
I am insignificant and despised,
but I don't forget your commandments.
Your justice is eternal,
and your instructions are perfectly true.
As pressure and stress bear down on me,
I find joy in your commands.
Your laws are always right;
help me to understand them so I may live.

Ephesians 6:13-15 (NLT)

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared.

Time of Reflection

Reflect on how you have been able to resist evil over the past few days. Pray that Christ would give you his strength.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would provide you with discernment and understanding, so that you may truly live.

Worship God for the truth found in Christ.

Missional Moment

Walk around your neighborhood and pray for your neighborhood. Pray for God's covering and saving grace. Pray for His love to abound.

Community Prayer

Pray for all the teenagers and young adults in our community. Pray that Jesus meets them in the midst of the difficulties of growing up and helps them make right choices that will lead to a better future. Pray that God challenges us to reach out to them and be a positive force of support, encouragement, and guidance.

Saturday

Call to Prayer

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Spend a few moments in prayer and silence preparing your heart to receive from the Holy Spirit.

Psalm & Scripture

Psalm 119:153-160 (NLT)

Look upon my suffering and rescue me,
for I have not forgotten your instructions.

Argue my case; take my side!

Protect my life as you promised.

The wicked are far from rescue,
for they do not bother with your decrees.

LORD, how great is your mercy;
let me be revived by following your regulations.

Many persecute and trouble me,
yet I have not swerved from your laws.

Seeing these traitors makes me sick at heart,
because they care nothing for your word.

See how I love your commandments, LORD.
Give back my life because of your unfailing love.

The very essence of your words is truth;
all your just regulations will stand forever.

Philippians 4:8 (NLT)

And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.

Time of Reflection

Take a few moments to think back on the Scripture passages read and prayed over during this past week. Praise God that the sum of his word is truth.

Pray that the Holy Spirit would strengthen you, that you would fix your thoughts on what is true, honorable right, pure, lovely and admirable.

Ask God that the truth of Christ would be a light that guides your path today, and that the Holy Spirit would help you to share the light of God's truth with others.

Missional Moment

Ask God to lead you to someone. Ask them if you can pray for them. Make it a sincere prayer including things you have already learned about them. Pray that God would pour out his love, truth and compassion on them.

Community Prayer

Pray for those in our community who are struggling with addictions. We pray that Jesus would heal their deep areas of woundedness and that we would surround them with unconditional love, encouragement, and support without judgment.